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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity at the Neustrelitz, Neubrandenburg and Puerstenberg

Posts

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 4 February 1955REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 25X1This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Prior to 27 October 1955. Camp Domjuech, 1.5 km east of Strelitz, was occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. On 26 October. 8 T-34 tanks left the installation for the training area near Jaeger-Pohl. On 27 October. 10 motorcycles practiced driving in this training area. 1 25X1

2. Between 9 November and 15 January. the Alte Grenadier Kaserne (2225) in Neustrelitz was occupied to capacity by approximately 600 soldiers of an artillery unit wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Field howitzers of 122 mm caliber were repeatedly seen in connection with the installation. Four guns repeatedly went to the training area near Fasanerie. Intensive drill, in the beginning without weapons, signal training and physical training were observed in the installation. 2 25X1

3. In November. the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse in Neustrelitz was occupied to capacity by approximately 500 soldiers including some with artillery insignia. The units were equipped with 122-mm field howitzers. Drill, instruction on guns and maintenance work were observed in the installation. Up to 4 field howitzers were repeatedly seen leaving. Infantry training was held in the training area near Fasanerie. 3 25X1

4. Between 30 November and 15 January, the Neue Infanterie Kaserne was heavily occupied. In late December. a shed north of the installation was occupied to capacity by tanks. In the beginning of the period under review, intensive construction work including the construction of earth bunkers was under way in the training area north of the installation, east of Penzliner Chaussee. It is believed that the training area northwest of the installation was to be relinquished. On 31 December, 5 T-34 tanks practiced driving in the new training area. On 3 January. T-34 tank No 150 entered the training area where approximately 100 soldiers practiced firing with carbines. 25X1

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5. Between 30 November and 15 January, approximately 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were quartered in the Alte Grenadier Kaserne (2225) in Neustrelitz. At dusk, all windows of the installation were lighted. Up to 300 soldiers carrying small arms frequently marched to the Jagdhaus training area. Field howitzers of 122 mm caliber repeatedly went to the training area; 5 howitzers were seen on 22 and 29 December. Between early and mid-January, aiming and firing of tracer ammunition with carbines mounted on these guns was practiced in the training area.

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6. Between 30 November and 15 January, the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse in Neustrelitz was occupied by approximately 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The installation was fully lit at dusk. Drill was observed almost daily. Groups of soldiers in platoon to company strength were repeatedly seen marching to the Jagdhaus training area. Between 22 December and 13 January, up to 3 M-31 and 5 M-13 rocket launchers were frequently seen leaving the installation.

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7. Between 1 December and 12 January, the Schlossgarten restricted area (2227) in Neustrelitz was occupied by approximately 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. After the entraining of 37-mm AA guns on 12 January, the installation appeared to be only lightly occupied.²
8. Mortars have not been observed in the town and the installations since several months. It could not be determined where the mortar unit was located. 3 2
9. Between 30 November and 4 December, the section of the Panzer Kaserne (2181) in Neubrandenburg which quartered the tank unit, was occupied to capacity by approximately 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and motor transport insignia. Tanks were frequently seen at driving practice in the immediate vicinity of the installation. 2

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10. On 6 January, the barracks installation on Kastaven Lake (2091) near Fuerstenberg was fully lighted and appeared to be occupied to capacity. 1 taxi driver stated that armored scout cars and many trucks but no tanks were stationed in the installation. 2
11. Between 27 November and 11 December, the barracks installation on Kastaven Lake (2091) near Fuerstenberg was occupied to capacity. On 2 December, soldiers engaged in construction work, and, on 11 December, 200 soldiers received infantry training, in the area south of the kaserne, north of the Fuerstenberg-Lychen road.
[REDACTED]
12. Between 27 November and 11 December, the restricted area on the south shore of Roeblyn Lake (2086) near Fuerstenberg appeared to be occupied to capacity. On 11 December, approximately 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and armed with submachine guns entered the restricted area.
13. Between 2 and 11 December, the outer installations of the Ravensbrueck concentration camp (2082/2083) near Fuerstenberg appeared to be occupied to capacity. Smoke rose from all chimneys. Approximately 100 soldiers were repeatedly seen at field training in the training area north of the installation. 4
14. In December, the barracks installation on Kastaven Lake near Fuerstenberg was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. The quarters were fully lighted on several days of observation. Up to 500 soldiers received infantry training including training with light mortars in the training area south of the installation.
15. Between mid-November and late December, the barracks installation in Droegen near Fuerstenberg (2081) was occupied to capacity. Numerous trucks were seen in front of the vehicle sheds. Up to 500 soldiers received infantry training including training on 4 light mortars and 4 x 76-mm AT guns in the training area of the installation. Four armored personnel carriers, 2 BA-64 armored scout cars and 12 driving school trucks were repeatedly seen leaving the installation. On 21 December, tanks [REDACTED] left the installation toward Fuerstenberg. On 30 December, fresh imprints of tank tracks were seen at the backward gate of the installation. A truck of the [REDACTED] towing a 85-mm AT gun entered the installation. 5
16. Between mid-November and mid-December, the restricted area on the south shore of Roeblyn Lake near Fuerstenberg was fully lighted. Many officers, soldiers and motor vehicles were observed.
17. Between mid-November and mid-December, the outer installations of the Ravensbrueck concentration camp near Fuerstenberg were fully lighted. They appeared to be occupied to capacity. Approximately

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100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were frequently seen receiving basic training with and without weapons in the training area north of Lychener Chaussee. 4

18. Prior to mid-December, the AAA emplacement on Kirschenallee was occupied by 4 medium guns. Approximately 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, which were quartered in nearby wooden buildings were seen at the emplacement. On 17 December, a practice firign at jet fighters was held there. Weather was poor. 4
19. Prior to 13 January, the barracks installation in Droege near Fuerstenberg was occupied by approximately 3,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Approximately 80 percent of the windows of the installation were lit at dusk. Individual training in the kaserne and infantry training and instruction on guns in the training area north of the installation were observed. Three 85-mm AT guns were seen on 23 December. In mid-December, an underground bunker was dug east of Highway No 96. Beams, boards and doors were used. 5

1. Comment. The observations again indicate that the 74th Gds Mtrcl Bn of the 9th Gds Tank Div is no longer stationed in the Neue Infanterie Kaserne in Neustrelitz but in Camp Domjuech. 25X1
2. Comment. The information does not indicate any change in the distribution of units of the 9th Gds Tank Div in the Neustrelitz, Neubrandenburg and Fuerstenberg posts. According to weapons, the 495th (?) Arty Regt is confirmed in the Alte Grenadier Kaserne until 15 January and the 121st (?) AAA Regt in the Schlossgarten restricted area until 12 January. The bulk of the latter regiment had been entrained for Wustrow on 12 January. [redacted] 25X1
The motor vehicles belong to the Second Gds Mecz Army and the majority of them to the abovementioned division. 25X1
3. Comment. The 126th Gds RL Bn of the 9th Gds Tank Div is confirmed in the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse until 15 January by weapons and motor vehicle [redacted] The 122-mm field howitzers [redacted] are believed to belong to the 234th Mort Regt of the division which is also stationed in the restricted area. After the reequipment from medium mortars to 122-mm field howitzers in the summer of 1954, the regiment is believed to include a battalion with 12 x 160-mm mortars and a battalion with 12 x 122-mm field howitzers. Similar observations were made at various tank and mechanized divisions in the zone. Recent information, however, tended to indicate that the former mortar regiments, at least of the tank divisions, are equipped with field howitzers exclusively, since a corresponding number of mortars have not been observed with the 9th Gds Tank Div, the 12th Gds Tank Div, the 10th Gds Tank Div and, apparently, the 25th Gds Tank Div, although mortars should have been observed in connection with the training with weapons of the recruits, which started some time ago. 25X1
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Final observations will be made only on occasion of the departure of the units to the firing ranges and training grounds.

4. Comment. The two installations appear to be still occupied by the Hq and Hq units of the Second Gds Mecz Army.

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As had been mentioned in the reference report, the AAA emplacements on Kirschen Allee, south of the restricted area on the south shore of Roebelin Lake, has been prepared by units of the 31st AAA Div in the summer of 1954. It is therefore assumed that the elements of the AAA division which are employed in the protection of the Army Hq in Fuerstenberg-Steinförde also furnish the occupation of these emplacements.

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5. Comment. Weapons observed in the Droegen kaserne indicate that the installation is still occupied by the units of the 24th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 12th Gds Tank Div. The tanks do not belong to the regiment. Since the U/i Mtrcl Regt of the Second Gds Mecz Army has been only vaguely indicated in the outer installations of the Ravensbrueck concentration camp, it is possible that the regiment is actually stationed in the Droegen kaserne.

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